Just over a year ago, the Arab American Institute introduced plans for Yalla Vote ’08 — a campaign “branded” more than twenty years ago that, in 2008, would be distinguished by resources and tools never before applied. This year, the Yalla Vote initiative served the Arab American community by:

- Building the first national coalition of Arab American organizations—the Yalla Vote Coalition—to create, support, and organize around a common agenda.
- Providing Arab American activists with civic engagement and media training to enhance their voter registration and get-out-the-vote efforts.
- Placing Yalla Vote Field Organizers on the ground in six states to mobilize and support local communities.
- Creating virtual phone banks to reach more than 80,000 households, mobilizing and quantifying the Arab American vote for the first time.
- Hosting www.yallavote.org, a dynamic, on-line resource for Arab American activists

And we did all of this while continuing to offer the other programs that our community counts on:

- Convening Candidates’ Nights for Arab Americans to meet and talk with candidates for local, state, and federal office
- Publishing resources like the Congressional Directory, Scorecard, Countdown, and more
- Serving as the nation’s only Census Information Center on Arab Americans—providing media, academia, researchers, and officials with key demographic information about our community.
- Hosting the Kahlil Gibran Spirit of Humanities Awards Gala, which this year featured Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, Academy-Award winner Sam Waterston, and internationally renowned journalist Rami Khouri.
- Organizing Arab American Service Day in Washington, DC to showcase our community’s commitment to public and social service.

What AAI and the AAI Foundation accomplished in 2008 is extraordinary—a historic moment for our community and for our nation. But now the heavy lifting starts.

A new Congress and Administration are taking office, ready to design, review, and implement policies. And AAI already is preparing and distributing the resources you need to make sure that Arab Americans play a role on the national stage, in the national debate, and in our nation’s future.

We are prepared, willing, and honored to continue to serve as a bridge between government agencies and the Arab American community. And we hope that you will continue to stay informed and engaged with our community, our issues, our government—and with AAI.

James J. Zogby
President

George R. Salem
Chair
The National Leadership Conference


The 600-plus Arab Americans from across the country who participated during the three-day program were addressed by video or surrogate from the campaigns of Ron Paul, Bill Richardson, Mike Gravel, and Dennis Kucinich. They were also treated to special video presentations by Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton, and John Edwards. Additionally, NLC attendees heard from DNC Chairman Howard Dean; Senators John Sununu (R-NH) and Debbie Stabenow (D-MI); Congressmen Charles Boustany (R-LA), John Dingell (D-MI) and John Conyers (D-MI); Michigan Democratic Party Chairman Mark Brewer; and Michigan Republican Party Chairman Gerry Mason.

The guest list, however, was not the only highlight of the conference. For the first time, Arab Americans endorsed and supported an ambitious program to raise visibility and bring our voice to the political table. Draft language was widely circulated among Arab American political leaders and organizations for their input, and the resulting National Declaration was endorsed by over fifty local, regional, and national Arab American organizations. These organizations formed the backbone of our Yalla Vote Coalition.

Yalla Vote, supported by a large coalition of Arab Americans across the country, was set in motion during those few days in October. This report highlights the results of a year’s efforts to engage, educate and empower Arab Americans in the political process.

The Yalla Vote field interns

Because AAI was committed to grassroots community participation in this critical election, we provided several cities with organizing interns. Before taking up their assignments in the summer of 2008, AAI brought the young Arab Americans to Washington, D.C. for an intensive training session. These Yalla Vote field organizers were given a tour of the political heart of the city, including appointments at the DNC and RNC headquarters and a trip to the Hill, a half-day session with Campus Progress’ Media Boot Camp, and a two-day Voter Engagement Program designed for Yalla Vote by Wellstone Action. The program was open to Yalla Vote Coalition members as well as members of the Arab American Institute in the National Capital Region. Participants acquired tools for engaging voters in the national political process, connecting on the issues that directly impact them, and identifying candidates who will fight for their interests.

Our field organizers were ready to work with Arab Americans in their communities to ‘get out the vote’, and Yalla Vote was launched in California, Florida, New York, and Ohio, as well as in our Midwest office in Dearborn, Michigan. Armed with comprehensive State Guides that the AAI staff researched and assembled for 12 states, the field organizers returned home to meet their hosts and hit the ground running.

For more about the Yalla Vote field organizers and their stories on the ground, please visit: http://www.yallavote.org
AAI 2008 Election Report

The dedication, enthusiasm, hard work, and creativity of our Yalla Vote organizers throughout the summer and fall deserve praise: kudos to Matt Elias (New York), Mia Kamal (Florida), Jana Al-Mukaddam Musleh and Amir Eustice (Michigan), Nadia Zaiem (Ohio), and Samar Alhinnawi (California).

Our thanks to the following individuals and organizations for their help in hosting our Yalla Vote field organizers:

- Dr. Maha Ansara, President of the Arab American Community Center in Orlando, graciously donated office space and support to Field Organizer Mia Kamal.
- Rami Nuseir from the American Mideast Leadership Network and Lena Al-Husseini from the Arab American Family Support Center both donated office space for AAI’s Field Organizer Matt Elias in New York.
- Dr. Yahya Basha donated space for the Michigan Field office
- The California field office was hosted by Mike Malley of FAM Vans, Inc.

Voter Engagement training with Wellstone Action

In all, AAIF sponsored three Wellstone Action Voter Engagement Training Programs during the spring of 2008. Arab American activists participated in workshops held in Dearborn, Michigan from the Midwest region, in Washington, D.C. for the National Capital Region, and in New Jersey, from the Mid Atlantic states. Participants took away a wealth of information during a two-day program that covered such topics as “The Building Blocks of Voter Engagement”, “Components of a Voter Engagement Program”, and “Grassroots Organizing Fundamentals”.

AAI/F trained more than 100 Arab Americans to engage our community on the issues, bring them to the polls, and serve as the Arab American voice in other political arenas. The attendees were charged with bringing what they had learned back to their own communities, training others to use the skills they had acquired.

Visibility and Outreach

AAI and AAIF at the National Conventions

This year’s back-to-back Democratic and Republican National Conventions made for a busy two weeks at the Arab American Institute and the Foundation. In the Mile High City and the Twin Cities, we were there, with two incredible programs that showcased two very different sides of Arab American life.

Comedy Kabob at the DNC

The Bar Standard nightclub in Denver, Colorado was transformed into a comedy club for an unforgettable night of raise-the-roof comedy, courtesy of Dean Obeidallah, Ahmed Ahmed, and Maz Jobrani, of Comedy Central’s “Axis of Evil Comedy Tour”. Two sold-out shows poked fun at life as an Arab American in a post-“9/11” world. Guests, which included Democratic party officials, delegates, and Obama staffiers, were treated to an Arabic feast and came away with a new perspective on Arab American life.

Dr. Zogby hosted a press briefing at the DNC for Arab American delegates to discuss the role of Arab Americans in the 2008 election with members of the press. In addition to the issues of economy and health care, Dr. Zogby and a distinguished panel fielded questions
about the war in Iraq, the Middle East conflict and civil liberties. Dr. Zogby also fulfilled his role as co-convener of the National Democratic Ethnic Coordinating Council and served as a super-delegate for presidential candidate Barack Obama.

**Mezza in Minneapolis: the RNC**

The RNC coincided with the start of Ramadan this year; the AAI and AAIF hosted an elegant evening of Arabic culture, with a dinner buffet donated by Majdi Wadi and Holy Land Bakery, traditional Arabic music, and a display of Arabian jewelry, antique abaya, and a variety of keffiyeh, loaned by the Arab American National Museum in Dearborn, Michigan. AAI Chairman George Salem served as Master of Ceremonies. Republican party guests attending the event learned a great deal about Arabic culture and the mission of the Arab American Institute and Foundation.

Throughout the week, AAI acted as a liaison between the media and Arab Americans on hand for the convention, helping to facilitate interviews and provide research materials to the media that attended.

**Online 24/7**

AAI/F created new online resources — not just to share tools and research, but to connect activists, to share stories of what was working on the ground, and to keep up with the Hill. The blog format of www.yallavote.org allowed the Yalla Vote Field Organizers to log on and post updates on their activities in real time, providing a first-person narrative to the elections from an Arab-American point of view. Additionally, AAI staff used the yallavote.org website to post past events, action alerts, and reactions to news stories in real time.

On our main website, www.aaiusa.org, members were kept up-to-date on a variety of issues. Voter education materials, including a state-by-state roster of Arab American candidates in local, state, and national races; an interactive database on how, when, and where to vote; summaries of presidential candidate opinions on issues of importance to our constituency; and articles about our issues, candidates, and campaign activities were regularly updated. AAI also used the Internet to quickly disseminate critical information to its members, through action alerts and regular news blasts.

**AAI in the media**

The Yalla Vote initiatives received substantial visibility in local, national, and international media outlets. Papers from the New York Times (“Arab Muslims in Brooklyn Find Power in the Voting Booth”) to The National (“Campaign Urges Arabs to Vote”) to The Boston Globe (“Arab-Americans yearning Long for Inclusion”) highlighted the “ambitious drive called Yalla Vote” and the efforts of our members and volunteers to activate the Arab American base. Outlets that covered AAI and Yalla Vote events and initiatives included: Al Jazeera, CNN, Roll Call, Politico, Reuters, BBC, USA Today, Detroit Free Press, Daily News, and The Wall Street Journal, to name a few.

The Yalla Vote field organizers also garnered attention in their local media markets. Nadia Zaiem’s efforts in Ohio caught the attention of the Cleveland Plain Dealer. They noted that the “cry of ‘yalla’ resounds on the shady streets of Lorain Avenue, in Cleveland’s Little Arabia”. The Candidates Nights across the county attracted press attention as well. Maram Abdelhamid, the Arab American Institute’s national field and political coordinator, received praise in the Florida Times-Union for her efforts to organize the Jacksonville Florida Candidates’ Night.

In addition to the significant coverage Yalla Vote gained in the mainstream media, a concerted media campaign effort was directed at the Arab American community. AAI produced two Public Service Announcements. In addition to a Youtube viral campaign, the PSAs aired on MBN, ART and LBC satellite in the U.S., and other local networks for the month leading up to the election. Television programs that target Arab Americans also highlighted the AAI’s GOTV message. ART’s “What’s Happening” ran a segment featuring Yalla Vote.
Getting Out the Vote

Candidate nights and Community forums

Candidates nights and community forums are a vital part of the work that the Arab American Institute and Foundation does on behalf of Arab Americans across the country. In 2008, AAI/F hosted four candidate nights: two in Florida, one in Virginia, and one in New York. Dr. Zogby also taped a special episode of his public affairs program, Viewpoint, at a town meeting in Dearborn, Michigan, dedicated to discussing the issues of 2008 with an audience of Arab Americans from the area.

All four evenings were well attended by candidates, campaign surrogates, and Arab American voters. In response to a request made by AAI of both presidential campaigns, candidate Barack Obama sent a personal, video message to Arab Americans to be aired at the events.

South Florida Candidates Night was co-sponsored by the Center for Voter Advocacy. Arab Americans and Muslim Americans from all over the region came to the event in September to hear the candidates speak and discuss how to get involved in the 2008 elections.
The Yalla Vote Virtual Phone Bank and Automated Calls

By mid-October, AAI shifted into full “Get Out The Vote” (GOTV) mode. Staff volunteers, both at the Washington, D.C. office and the field offices across the country, gave their time at night and on the weekends to facilitate a massive campaign, the Yalla Vote Virtual Phone Bank. Working with NALEO (the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials), AAI adapted NALEO’s online phone bank program for use as a Yalla Vote tool to reach Arab American voters.

Yalla Vote volunteers were able to reach thousands of registered voters in Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Florida. Tens of thousands of voters were directly contacted by volunteers in key congressional districts in the five-state campaign (Michigan, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Florida, and Ohio).

Over 500 volunteers signed up with AAI to make calls. On-site phone banks were organized in Washington, D.C.; Dearborn and Ann Arbor, Michigan; Cleveland, Ohio; Orlando, Florida; New York City, and Anaheim, California in the final two weeks, which allowed us to double our reach.

In the final days before the election, Yalla Vote GOTV automated messages reached over 80,000 Arab American households. A special message went out on November 3rd from Arab American radio personality Casey Kasem and Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell.

This unprecedented effort by our volunteers took voter outreach to a new level and helped to raise awareness and activism among Arab American voters in the 2008 elections.

To watch this and other episodes of Washington Watch, please visit: http://www.aaiusa.org/dr-zogby/38/viewpoint
AAI and CIMEP at the Iowa Caucuses

In the lead up to the Iowa caucuses on January 3, 2008, AAI supported Concerned Iowan’s for Middle East Peace (CIMEP) in organizing substantive discussions on the peace process. AAI helped CIMEP draft and circulate a petition asking candidates to take a simple pledge, which read: “If elected President, I will do everything possible to promote negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians to achieve peace and security for Israel and a secure and contiguous state for the Palestinians.”

The coalitions organized a speaking tour in November of 2007, with Daniel Levy and Ghaith al-Omari, to educate Iowans on the peace process.

CIMEP and AAI members asked the candidates tough questions about their proposed Middle East policy and priorities. Not only did the initiative receive support from the public (2000 caucus goers) and gain the candidates’ attention, it also garnered press recognition. Early on, the group’s effort received editorial support from the Des Moines Register. And one New York Times reporter noted, “I may not always agree with you, but thank you for holding their feet to the fire.”

“The Stakes Have Never Been Higher”

On February 29, 2008, Dr. Zogby addressed the Los Angeles World Affairs Council. His speech, “The Stakes Have Never Been Higher”, continued to focus public attention on the state of affairs in the United States and its relationships with the Middle East. Dr. Zogby examined the deleterious effects that U.S. policy in the Middle East has had on that region: the missed opportunities, the ignorance, arrogance, and political wrangling that has dug an even deeper hole. “Vote like your life depends on it,” Dr. Zogby said. “Because it does.”

Dr. Zogby gave this speech at multiple forums, including the Chicago Council for Global Affairs and the Cleveland City Club, and it was broadcast on public television and radio. “The Stakes” in its entirety is available in printed book and web-based PDF formats. It was widely disseminated at Yalla Vote venues and the Democratic and Republican National Conventions this summer.

The Issues

During the summer, AAI crafted issue briefs on such topics as civil liberties, Lebanon, Palestine, and Iraq. On civil liberties: “In the aftermath of September 11th, Arab Americans, like all Americans, became even more dedicated to protecting the United States from further attack, but also believe that this important goal can be achieved without threatening the civil liberties of any American.” On Iraq: “Arab Americans want a responsible end to the war in Iraq and strongly support the policies laid out in the 2006 Iraq Study Group Report; working with all of Iraq’s constituencies to achieve political reform and national reconciliation that will bring about stable, democratic governance based on tolerance, transparency, and respect for liberal institutions.” On the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: “Arab Americans want U.S. diplomacy that will work towards the creation of two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, living side-by-side in peace and security - a Palestine that is viable, contiguous, sovereign and independent alongside an Israel that has secure and recognized borders.” On Lebanon: “Arab Americans want the United States to support the continued efforts of the Lebanese people to achieve reform, reconciliation and national unity.” Talking points on these topics served as a resource for both our constituency and the Obama and McCain campaigns.
And Dr. Zogby opened his testimony before the DNC 2008 Platform Committee with these words: “I am Arab American. My family came to this great country from Lebanon almost a century ago. They, like hundreds of thousands of other Arab immigrants, came because of the freedom America promised, and the opportunity it provided.” He brought with him copies of platform planks written by members of AAI that had been submitted to both campaigns. “The Platform you are writing will send a message, both to the American people and the world. More than just a political document, it will describe the policies we will pursue and the values on which we will stand. It can, we believe, reinforce the hopes of so many that change is on the way.”

Platform plank parties

This summer offered a unique opportunity to participate in the political process. The call went out over the Internet from the Obama campaign: submit your platform planks! And for the first time, the Republican Party asked Americans to draft and submit platform planks, as well. AAI encouraged its membership and endorsing organizations to take advantage of this opportunity to let our political leadership know what issues are important to us, and what we expect from our next President. Members around the U.S. responded, using the language of the National Declaration as the backbone of their planks. “Platform Plank Parties” were held in Virginia, D.C., Ohio, California, Michigan, and Florida. The Los Angeles and Virginia chapters of NAAP co-hosted platform parties and submitted their platform planks to both the Republican and Democratic parties prior to the nominating conventions. The Arab American Democrats in Anaheim, California drafted platform planks in response to our request, as well.

Racism in Politics

This year, “Arab-baiting” began with rumors in the primaries that Senator Barack Obama was a “Secret Muslim”, fueled by an indiscriminate e-mail and Internet campaign. But what had begun as a barrier to participation and inclusion became, by the end of the election season, a catalyst for Arab American engagement in the election.

Attacks against Arab Americans and Muslim Americans gained momentum as the election season wore on: Michelle Malkin’s hysterical reaction to Rachel Ray’s “keffiyeh”; the DVD Obsession: Radical Islam’s War Against the West was distributed to over 28 million households in key battle ground states around the anniversary of 9/11; Rush Limbaugh claimed that Obama was an “Arab”, and implied that being of Arab descent disqualified one for public office. The Wall Street Journal picked up an anti-Muslim blog’s accusations of ‘guilt by association’ against Mazen Asbahi, volunteer national coordinator for Arab American and Muslim American affairs for Barack Obama’s campaign, which led to his voluntary resignation.

Doubt was cast on Senator Obama’s heritage; “Arab” and “Muslim” became pejoratives on mainstream media outlets and on the campaign trail, exacerbating racial biases. The campaign trail was not immune. After a McCain supporter said she did not trust Senator Obama because he was “an Arab”, Senator John McCain defended his rival: “No, ma’am. He’s a decent family man and citizen....”

Prominent voices began to question the racism, conscious or unconscious, in these remarks. CNN’s Campbell Brown editorialized, “So what if Obama was Arab or Muslim?” Ben Affleck stated, on Real Time with Bill Maher, that “Arab and good person are not antithetical to one another”. And Colin Powell, on Meet the Press, asked and answered: “Is there something wrong with being a Muslim in this country? The answer’s no, that’s not America.”

In the days leading up to the election, accusations were made that Rashid Khalidi, Middle East scholar and distinguished professor at Columbia University, was a PLO spokesman and, by extension, a terrorist. Reputable journalists came immediately to Khalidi’s defense; the simple fact of being Arab or Muslim was no longer a reliable campaign weapon.
ARAB AMERICANS AND THE 2008 ELECTIONS

“How Arab Americans Will Vote in 2008 And Why”

A poll commissioned by AAI revealed a historic shift of Arab Americans support towards the Democratic ticket in both their September and October polls.

According to the second of two Arab American Institute / Zogby International nationwide polls of 504 likely Arab American voters, 54 percent identified themselves as Democrats. The number of Arab Americans identifying as Democrats has steadily increased since 2002, while the percentage of those identifying as Republican has been declining. Until 2000, Democrats held a slight edge over Republicans among Arab Americans; today, twice as many Arab Americans identify themselves as Democrats than Republicans.

The AAI/ZI poll showed that 64 percent of Arab Americans favored Senator Barack Obama in a two way race. Support for Sen. Obama only dropped by two percent when third-party candidates were added. When “leaners” were added, AAI projected a final 68/27 Obama win among Arab American voters.

With almost two-thirds of Arab Americans negatively impacted by the recent economic crisis, it is no surprise that 79 percent named “Jobs and/or the Economy” as one of the most important issues in this election. 69 percent felt that Senator Obama handled the issue better then his opponent, compared to 23 percent for Senator McCain.

Arab Americans on the Move

Arab Americans made their voices heard in the elections this year: running for office at the state and national level; working for the Presidential campaigns; volunteering at the polls; and getting out the vote. Rashida Tlaib, David-Imad Ramadan, and Majid Al-Bahadli are just three of the thousands of Arab Americans who played an active role.

Rashida Tlaib is known to residents of Michigan’s 12th District by name: she’s visited their homes on her door-to-door campaign, and she’s part of a growing group of those who work in “service politics”. Tlaib, a recently elected Michigan State Representative, says she is a perfect example of why everyone should be involved in politics. “I am a product of all the work that the Arab American community has put forward so far. If it wasn’t the community mobilizing themselves and organizing their voice, I would not have ever run for office. If we give up now, then we will go back to the years where we weren’t represented at National Conventions or even viewed as an important constituency.”

David-Imad Ramadan has been a Republican activist at both a grassroots and national level since he moved to Washington, DC in 1989. Over the last twenty years, he has worked on every presidential campaign on the Republican side and has been involved in several gubernatorial and senatorial campaigns. He is currently the Precinct Captain and Outreach Chair for Loudoun County Republicans, and in 2008, he was actively involved with the Republican Party of Virginia, the Arab American Coalition for McCain, and the Lebanese American Coalition for McCain. “Every vote counts!” Ramadan emphasized earlier this summer. “And everyone should be involved; we have a civic duty to be involved in politics and we have a social and cultural duty to our ancestry to vote. Arab Americans can talk to both sides of the aisles about issues that are 100% local or that affect us nationally. If we sit at home on Election Day, we can blame nobody but ourselves.”

Majid Al-Bahadli, Obama delegate from Washington State, danced on the floor of the Democratic National Convention this past August, cheered on by members of his state’s delegation. How he came to be there, the only Iraqi delegate on the floor, is an inspiration to us all. For nearly five years, he lived in a prisoner of war camp in the Saudi desert. There were some difficult years between his arrival in the U.S. and the day he became a citizen in 2000—although politics is his passion, he lay low for fear that his actions might jeopardize his impending naturalization. In 2008, he worked to get out the vote in his adopted Seattle, Washington and is running for City Council there.
# 2008 Arab American Candidates

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<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CANDIDATE</th>
<th>RESULT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>State Senator Paula Aboud (D-28th District) for Re-election</td>
<td>WON</td>
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<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>U.S. Representative Darrell Issa (R-49th District) for Re-election</td>
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<td>Ferial Masry (D-37th District) for State Assembly</td>
<td>LOST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>State Representative Joseph Rice (D-38th District) for Re-election</td>
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<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>State Senator David Cappiello (R-5th CD) for U.S. Representative</td>
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<td></td>
<td>State Representative William Hamzy (R-78th District) for Re-election</td>
<td>WON</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State Representative Selim Noujaim (R-74th District) for Re-election</td>
<td>WON</td>
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<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>Barrington Hills Village President Robert Abboud for U.S. Rep. (D-16th District)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Darin LaHood for State’s Attorney (R-Peoria County)</td>
<td>LOST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>Governor Mitch Daniels (R) for Re-election</td>
<td>WON</td>
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<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>U.S. Representative Charles Boustany, Jr. (R-7th District) for Re-election</td>
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<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>State Senator Steven Baddour (D-3rd District) for Re-election</td>
<td>WON</td>
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<td>Michigan</td>
<td>Judge David Allen (3rd Circuit, Criminal Division) for Re-election</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard (R) for Re-election</td>
<td>WON</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Judge Charlene Mekled Elder (3rd Circuit, Family Division) for Re-election</td>
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<td>Rashida Tlaib for State Representative (D-12th District)</td>
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<td>Justin Amash for State Representative (D-72nd District)</td>
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<td>Albert Abbassee for State Representative (D-72nd District)</td>
<td>LOST</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>U.S. Senator John E. Sununu (R) for Re-election</td>
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<td>State Representative Benjamin Baroody (D-13th District) for Re-election</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Richard Hanna for U.S. Representative (R-24)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>Nick Kahl for State Representative (D-49th District)</td>
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<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>State Representative Camille “Bud” George (D-74th District) for Re-election</td>
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<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>State Senator Hanna Gallo (D-27th District) for Re-election</td>
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<td>State Senator Paul Jabbour (D-5th District) for Re-election</td>
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<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>State Senator Vincent Shaheen (D-27th District) for Re-election</td>
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<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>State Senator Gene Abdallah (R-10th District) for Re-election</td>
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<td>Texas</td>
<td>State Representative Mark Strama (D-50th District) for Re-election</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>State Representative Bill Aswad (D-Chittenden-3-1 District) for Re-election</td>
<td>WON</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>Sam Rasoul (D-6th District) for U.S. Representative</td>
<td>LOST</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>U.S. Representative Nick Rahall II (D-3rd District) for Re-election</td>
<td>WON</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Delegate John Ellem (R-10th District) for Re-election</td>
<td>WON</td>
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THE YALLA VOTE ‘08 CAMPAIGN WAS MADE POSSIBLE IN PART BY THE GENEROSITY OF THE FOLLOWING FOUNDATIONS:

☆ CARNEGIE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK
☆ OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE
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☆ FOUR FREEDOMS FUND